

Attorney's Docket No.:06618-408002

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced application are respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is amended to emphasize that there is a separate membrane portion and catalyst ink. The claimed membrane portion has PSSA and PVDF. Narayanan does not teach such a membrane portion, SEPARATE FROM THE CATALYST, that has PSSA and PVDF. Both the membrane portion and the catalyst ink have an ionomer. The specification page 5 lines 20-24 describes putting ionomeric material in both the catalyst ink and the deposited catalyst material to allow the catalyst material to acquire properties similar to the membrane, and thereby mate better with the membrane.

This interpretation obviates the examiner's interpretation that somehow the decal is both the membrane and the catalyst.

With regards to the comment in the rejection that applicant is interpreting the reference "under the doctrine of claim differentiation", with all due respect, applicant is interpreting the reference according to what the reference discloses. The reference discloses nothing about a membrane that is formed of PSSP/PVDF as claimed. Moreover, the reference does not teach a membrane of this type along with an ionomer and that a catalyst ink comprises catalytic material, PVDF, and an ionomer. An advantage of this combination has been described

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above. For all of these reasons, claim 1 should be allowable along with the claims that depend therefrom. Claims 2-14 should be allowable by virtue of their dependency.

A terminal disclaimer is filed herewith, disclaiming the portion of this patent which extends beyond the 343 patent, to obviate this rejection.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

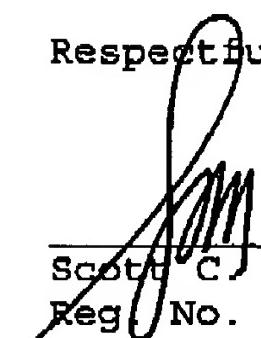
Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Please apply

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the Terminal Disclaimer fee and any other charges or credits to
Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/8/05



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